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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 42, Iss. 7)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

REC'D APR 6 - 1960

Raises for 1,000 in M'West Gossard Pact

— Page 3

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

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Vol. XLII, No. 7

Jersey City, N. J., April 1, 1960

Price 10 Cents

Minnesota Strike Victory

— Page 3

ILGWU Label Joins America's Easter Parade

— Page 4



In the Fore of the campaign to secure an American standard of living for all workers through a boost in the federal minimum wage, the ILGWU has been leading the drive for passage of the Kennedy-Morse-Roosevelt Bill as a member of the AFL-CIO Joint Minimum Wage Committee. The proposed legislation would raise the minimum wage to \$1.25 an hour, extend coverage to some 8 million workers not now protected, and provide a penny-for-penny increase for workers in Puerto Rico as is granted on the mainland. Above, garment worker delegations from Tennessee, North Carolina and South Carolina are met on the steps of the Capitol building by Evelyn Dubrov, executive secretary of the ILGWU Political Department, who has been guiding the group in Washington on visits to their Congressmen and Senators. Top left, ILGWUers from Tennessee in the offices of Senators Albert Gore and Estes Kefauver. Below, members of N. Y. Skirmakers' Local 23 sign petitions in shop in support of the measure.

AFL-CIO for \$1.25 Pay To End 'Working Poor'

Led by Pres. George Meany, the AFL-CIO has mounted a full-scale drive to boost the federal minimum wage to \$1.25 an hour and to extend coverage to 7½ million workers not now protected, as a "start toward relieving the plight of the most-neglected group in our society."

In testimony before a House Labor subcommittee last month, Meany termed the continued existence of a large group of "working poor" in the United States a "social and moral disgrace."

He asked: "How can we live with our consciences when we know that millions of our fellow-citizens can't earn enough, working full time and overtime, to provide themselves with food, clothing and shelter?"

Also testifying as the subcommittee opened its often-postponed hearings were Pres. Jacob S. Potofsky of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and an employer spokesman for a group of clothing manufacturers who said a higher minimum would benefit industry and the nation.

Urges Early Action

Meany, pointing out that the facts regarding the minimum wage have been presented to Congressional committees "in exhaustive detail" on four occasions in the past five years, urged Sub-committee Chairman Phil M. Landrum (D-Oa.) to keep the hearings "as brief as possible" so that action can be completed this year.

Declaring that poverty among

American workers is a weapon in the hands of world Communism, Meany said the United States must stand by all of the "four freedoms."

"What kind of 'freedom from want' does a man have at \$1 an hour?" he asked. "What kind of 'freedom from fear'?"

No Handicap

There is "not the slightest basis" for claims that the labor-backed Kennedy-Morse-Roosevelt bill would handicap legitimate business or contribute to inflation, he told the subcommittee.

"But in all frankness," he added, "if an enterprise cannot survive except by paying wages of 75 cents or \$1 an hour, I am perfectly willing for it to go out of business. . . . It is not an asset, it is a liability."

The nation's economy should be growing "faster as fast as it is," Meany said, adding that lack of consumer purchasing power is a factor in the economic slowdown.

'Permanent Poverty'

"It's perfectly obvious that a group of people who are in a state of permanent poverty aren't going to buy their share," he said. "The inability of these

people to be full consumers . . . cuts down the number of higher-paid jobs available by limiting the market for everything from cars to cereals. It raises the direct and indirect cost of social welfare. The poor are an expensive luxury for the community as a whole. . . . Employed, productive workers" to be a social problem, Meany said, is "not only unjust; it is plain foolishness."

Employer Support

Robert T. Garrison, spokesman for a group of manufacturers employing 30,000 workers at factories in 12 states, told the subcommittee:

"We support a minimum of \$1.25 per hour because we believe it is necessary to stimulate purchasing power among the lowest paid workers and because employers who pay fair wages should be protected against the unfair competition of substandard wages."

Garrison, who is vice president of Chert, Peabody & Co. Inc., and head of its Arrow division, said a higher minimum wage would "help to create more job opportunities" by raising purchasing power.

Community Service



Factors leading to harmonious relations between trade unions and civic organizations are detailed by Henry L. McCarthy, executive director of the Community Council of Greater New York, to education directors from metropolitan area schools.

CAPITOL LETTER

Public Needs Go by Board After 7 Eisenhower Years

WASHINGTON—For 20 years the New and Fair Deals placed emphasis on the public needs such as improved education, health services, public works like the Tennessee Valley Authority, social security, public health, unemployment compensation. These might be called the underpinnings of our society. They helped produce a standard of living that has been the envy of the rest of the world.

For the past seven years under the Eisenhower administration, the emphasis has been away from these social projects and in favor of individual well-being and prosperity largely as reflected in the profit and dividend columns of our business enterprises.



The prospect, as preached day and night by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers, has been that it is only through the freedom of business that we can have the kind of social progress that presumably we all want. The cry has been: keep the role of government to a minimum; encourage private gain so that it will invest in job-producing enterprises; let businessmen make the decisions as to how our economy shall develop; leave it to the states and local communities to give us such social services as we need.

How well has this worked?

Undoubtedly it has worked well for some. Profits and dividends reached new highs in 1959. The tight money policy produced the highest interest rates since before the New Deal. The stock market has boomed much along the lines of the 1920's. Most of us with jobs have shared to a certain extent in the private opulence that has resulted, although a discouragingly high number—at least a fifth—definitely have not.

But, meanwhile, what has been happening to our plant as a nation—education, housing, social clearance, pure water, health services? Are these really being kept up as they should be for an ever increasing population or are we shortchanging ourselves in these areas?

Day of Reckoning Ahead

Wherever we turn we hear grave warnings that we are slipping behind on these fronts: from the educators, from the conservationists, from the housing experts, from the social workers, from the sanitation engineers, from virtually every group that is concerned with the public welfare.

There is much evidence that we have not progressed on the public front as much as we desperately need; that our economy is not growing as fast as it should; that a day of reckoning may well be ahead.

The Federal Reserve Board has just revised its Index of Industrial Production, making important adjustments. Between 1947 and 1953 the manufacturing index went up 40 points. Between 1953 and 1959 it went up only 14 points. In mining it went up 16 points during the earlier period; only 6 points in the latter period.

Our total annual rate of growth between 1947 and 1953 was 5.4 percent; between 1953 and 1959 it dropped to 2.3 percent. Our annual rate of growth per capita during the same periods dropped shockingly from 1.8 percent to one-half of one percent.

With this drastic drop in the rate of our growth, it is no wonder that the business community keeps telling us that we "can't afford" this social service or that one; it is no wonder that the federal budget has cut down on the public plant in the form of cuts in appropriations for federal programs and even the abandonment of programs that have helped build our standard of living.

What good does it do us if we as individuals—and a few only at that—are wealthy, if the people are poorly educated with millions of them badly housed, in need of adequate health programs, subsisting on inadequate retirement benefits and unemployment compensation?

Union Retirees Spark Rally Urging Forand Bill Passage

More than 10,000 retired union members overflowed Manhattan Center last week at a rally called by the New York City Central Labor Council to urge that Congress pass the Forand Bill (HR 4700), which would provide medical care for the aged under the Social Security Act.

Simultaneously, in Washington, Eisenhower administration spokesmen Arthur S. Fleming, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, told the House Ways and Means Committee that the administration would fight the labor-backed legislation and had no counter-proposals to offer.

AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany immediately charged the Eisenhower administration with "sneaky surrender to the dictates of the medical lobby and the insurance trust."

At Manhattan Center, the retired board AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer William F. Schnitzer called the American Medical Association

the most formidable enemy of the Forand Bill. Schnitzer ridiculed the AMA's allegations that the measure would lead to "socialized medicine," recalling that in the past the medical lobby had been opposed to all forms of progressive legislation, including social security itself, and such non-profit insurance plans as Blue Cross.

The senior citizens, who filled two of the Manhattan Center ballrooms and overflowed into the streets, heard Mayor Robert F. Wagner call the Forand Bill "the logical and necessary extension of this great social security system." He pledged his full backing to the campaign.

The Mayor presented a proclamation to Harry Van Arsdale Jr., president of the Central Labor Council, designating the week of March 28 as Senior Citizens

Health Security Week in New York City.

Dr. George Beehr, chairman of the New York State Public Health Council, hit out at the insurance companies for "falsifying statistics" in their efforts to fight the extension of social security benefits. He noted that only 15 percent of the nation's 16-million persons over 65 have an income of \$2,000 or more, and of the 11 million Americans who draw social security pensions, only about a million are covered by private pension plans.

The enthusiastic rally closed with thousands of the retirees singing petitions to their Congressmen and Senators, urging their support for the Forand Bill.

Meanwhile, back in Washington, Rep. Forand and other legislators cited the flood of mail overwhelmingly in favor of the measure.

JUSTICE

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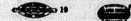
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As more than 10,000 retired members of New York trade unions cheer, AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer William F. Schnitzer, (left) heads for the stage at Manhattan Center mass rally.

Full Victory in Minnesota Strike Settlement

Victory Vote in the Gopher State



Minneapolis strikers vote unanimously to ratify new pact won following a three-week walkout which brought gains to 800 workers in Minneapolis and Glencoe, Minn., and St. Croix Falls, Wis.

Six hundred staunch union members, who walked the picket line for three weeks, have walked it all the way to victory in Minneapolis. Employers agreed to all union demands and the settlement was ratified unanimously on March 18.

Vice Pres. Frederick Siems reports. The following day, the workers returned to nine shops in Minneapolis, one in Glencoe and one in St. Croix Falls, Wis., under the same terms as those recently won in St. Louis.

The new contract is retroactive to February 1, which means that workers will get back pay for the difference between old rates and new ones for the period of February 1 to February 24, when the strike started. Unfair labor practice charges, which had been filed by the employers against the union, were dropped as part of the strike settlement.

The ILGWU was solid from Glencoe to Minneapolis to St. Croix Falls—and from 20 above zero to 12 below. Other unions in Minnesota backed them up and cheered their victory, which was considered an important setback for anti-labor forces in the state.

An immediate 6½ percent pay increase for all workers, with another of 7 percent two years from now, heads the list of benefits in the new three-year contract. Time-and-a-half starts after 7½ hours a day now, and after 7 hours later. Minimums for all crafts

rise in two steps to \$2.70 for cutters, \$2.35 for pattern graders, \$1.70 for pressers, \$1.35 for operators, \$1.25 for examiners, finishers and bundlers and \$1.33 for floor workers.

Contributions from the employers for fringe benefits include an immediate ½ of 1 percent for severance pay, to be increased to 1 percent later; 3 percent for retirement (increased from 2 percent) and 3 percent for health (increased from 1 percent).

Use of the union label and all the same grievance procedure and enforcement provisions won in the St. Louis contract are also in the Minneapolis agreement.

Vice Pres. Siems, who heads the Central States Region, led the negotiations and directed the strike. Glenn Clay of the regional staff, Twin Cities Manager Dolores Johnson and organizers Peter Nadash and John Curtis were on the job for the duration of the strike. Sharing the responsibilities for strike leadership were members of the negotiating committee: Marie Jeffries, Lillian LaBelle, Art Engelmann, Agnes Osburn, Mervyn Rogman, Zelma Mills and Frances Jacobson.

1,000 Win Raises via Midwest Gossard Pact

Months of negotiations, capped by two weeks of daily sessions, have culminated in a three-year renewal agreement covering some 1,000 workers at five plants of the H. W. Gossard Co., one of the country's largest foundation garment manufacturers, reports Vice Pres. Morris Blais, director of the Midwest Region.

The new pact, retroactive to January 1, is highlighted by a two-part wage increase. The first series of pay boosts provides time workers with raises of 4 to 8 cents an hour; piece workers will receive a hike of 4 cents an hour in the base rate, which will yield an average increase of about 4 cents an hour.

On July 1, 1961, time workers will not get a further boost of from 4 to 8 cents an hour, and piece workers will gain a raise equal to that provided by the first set of pay hikes.

Additional provisions include establishment of a severance pay fund, with employer contribution of one-half percent of payroll go-

ing to 1 percent in a year's time; one additional holiday, Decoration Day, starting in 1961, and making a total of six paid holidays; time and one-half for overtime after the daily seven hours, and improvements in other terms of the standard agreement.

Union negotiators included Assistant Regional Director Harold Schwartz, Michigan Representative Bill Davis, Indiana Representative Bob Hoge, Norbert Cell, Ruth Craine, Bernice Holton, and committees from each shop.

The presence of Mrs. Elsie D. Stewart, Commissioner of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, was instrumental in

bringing about the final settlement.

Charges at Diamond

Unfair labor practice charges (Continued on Page 11)

EXPERTS TO ADDRESS AFL-CIO CONFERENCE ON WORLD SITUATION

Outstanding authorities on various phases of the critical world situation will address the AFL-CIO Conference on World Affairs at the Hotel Commodore in New York City on April 19 and 20. The conference will be keyed to solving the nation's "competent clarification" of the pressing world problems to be dealt with at the East-West "summit" meeting in May.

Members of the ILGWU may attend as observers.

AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany, in letters to affiliated national and international unions and state and local central bodies inviting officers to attend the two-day sessions, termed the conference "extraordinary" and a "rare opportunity" to place the problems confronting the U.S. and the problems of the summit in perspective. Among the top experts in world affairs and national defense who will address the meetings will be Under Secretary of State, C. Douglas Dillon; William C. Foster, former Deputy Secretary of Defense; Gen. John B. Medaris, recently retired chief of Army's missile program and Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, director of the International Seminar at Harvard.

A special subcommittee of three AFL-CIO vice presidents—George Harrison, Walter Reuther and ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky—has worked out the program and arrangements for the conference.

Fight Undermining N. Y. Jobless Pay

A shocking attempt to undermine unemployment insurance in New York State was being fought off last week as the state's legislature headed toward adjournment. In the hopper was a bill which, if enacted, would disqualify hundreds of thousands of workers from benefits. Especially hard hit would be the state's many thousands of garment workers.

The drastic proposals for changes in the unemployment insurance law were made just ten days before adjournment and "without benefit of prior discussion or public hearing," it was charged by Louis Stulberg, ILGWU general secretary-treasurer.

Harsh Provisions

Stulberg made his accusation in a letter published in The New York Times on March 30 in which he characterized the proposals as imposing "unduly harsh disqualification provisions" on the workers of the state.

In his letter, Stulberg declared: "The present law provides a uniform disqualification period of six weeks for workers who become unemployed because of voluntary quits, refusal of employment and misconduct. The proposed bill (S. I. 3828, A. I. 4628) imposes a complete disqualification for the duration of the unemployment and until a claimant has 'subsequently worked in employment on not less than three days in each of four weeks or earned remuneration of at least \$200.'"

"Under this bill, if the job market is affected by a recession or the worker who is disqualified does not have the luck to find a new job, benefit rights which are new lost for the entire benefit year."

"The proposed bill will result in the most inequitable form of variable disqualifications. A fortunate worker who just happens to

find a job which pays him \$200 in a week or two will be able to keep the suspension period quickly.

Difficult to Find

"A less lucky claimant, perhaps in an industry where job opportunities are declining, perhaps in (Continued on Page 11)

"Non-Fat Diet"



ILGWU Label Boosters Join America's Easter Parade

As the Easter buying season reaches its peak throughout the nation, American women seeking to be the best dressed also promise to be the most union label conscious in history. For at almost every turn, they will come into contact with the constantly increasing trend, variety and effectiveness of promotional efforts sparked by the ILGWU Label Department:

—As they scanned their Sunday papers on March 27 for fashion shopping news, millions of women in 32 cities across the country were reached by full-page advertisements — first of the 1968 union label campaign — timed and keyed to top-interest periods.

—As they attended meetings of their church, school, business, social, community and other clubs as varied as America itself, they were likely to view the ILGWU color movie, "The Fashion Picture, Spring Into Summer." Already, showings have been held or slated at some 102 group cities and towns from New York to Carmichael, California.

—And if they missed it at their clubs, there was a good chance they'd catch it when they turned on their TV sets: 47 stations have scheduled showings so far.

—As they neared the stores for their purchases, they were greeted, in many cities, by teams of ILGWU label boosters distributing attractive color literature presenting the union's message. And in numerous shops, cooperating retailers prominently displayed two-color ILGWU label posters in their windows and cards on their counters.

Label Corps

In New York City last week, formation was announced of a Metropolitan Union Label Corps to be coordinated by Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, director of the ILGWU Label Department. Starting with 400 label boosters representing all locals in the city, the corps soon is expected to grow to several thousand, and will concentrate on spreading label posters, cards and other promotional material to retail outlets in all the neighborhoods.

Last Saturday, members of the Dress Joint Council were on hand outside all major stores in the Herald Square area of New York City distributing union label literature. First of a weekly series of distributions, totaling some 304,000 to be conducted in the metropolis and all other areas of the council's affiliate — The Dress Joint Board, Northeast Department and Eastern Region.

Subsequent leaflets will urge shoppers to shun garments produced by non-union elements.

Boston Delays

Another metropolis — Boston — also was the scene of concentrated union label promotion last week.

The City Council issued a proclamation calling for support of the ILGWU label by all citizens. The resolution, which was presented to Vice Pres. Philip Kramer,

manager of the Boston Joint Board, urged observance of Union Label Day on March 30. On that date, hundreds of ILGWUers covered all shopping areas in the city, giving out literature and answering questions.

—Representatives of the city's leading retail establishments, garment manufacturers and union spokesmen attended a special luncheon-conference at which Vice Pres. Hochman pointed up the mutual interest of all factors in the community in furthering the union label campaign.

Label Day activities were widely reported by the press, radio and television. And wherever one went — on the streets, in the subways, at the stores — the big and striking poster asked: "Shopping for Easter? Don't Be Blindfolded — Look for the ILGWU Union Label."

Meantime, more than 100,000 women all over the country were receiving copies they had requested of the Label Department's booklet, "How to Be Well Dressed," with more requests coming in every day.



A week of activities heralded Boston's celebration of ILGWU Union Label Day, March 30, following official endorsement by proclamation of the city council. At a conference called for the city's leading retailers, from left: Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, director of the Label Department; G. E. Johnson of Raymond's; Allen Smith of Gilchrist's; Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Boston Joint Board; Clyde Skilin of Goris.

ILG Houses Area Demolition Begins

With more than 200 buildings vacated and only some 600 families remaining to be relocated, demolition is under way and construction scheduled to begin early this summer on ILGWU Houses, the cooperative project in Manhattan's Chelsea section, according to a progress report from the United Housing Foundation.

The 2,820-unit development is the second ILGWU-sponsored cooperative to be built by UHF, the other being the 1,872-unit ILGWU Cooperative Village on the lower East Side. The Chelsea project will consist of nine 20-story buildings, providing apartments ranging in size from 2 to 5½ rooms. The construction will take place between 8th and 9th Avenues from 23rd to 26th Streets.

Simultaneous with the report on ILG Houses, plans for building the world's largest cooperative housing development on the site of the old Jamaica Race Track in Queens, were announced by Abraham E. Kasan, UHF president.

The \$80,450,000 development on a 170-acre vacant land site will be known as Rochdale Village. It will provide housing for 4,218 families, ranging from 2 to 6½ rooms, at an average monthly rental of \$21 a room, with mem-

bers' equity investment at \$400 a room.

Rochdale Village will include 27 residential buildings of 4 to 12 stories each, shopping centers, a central power plant, and parking facilities for 3,200 automobiles. In addition to its own gardens, playgrounds, walks and community facilities, a 25-acre public park will be included on the site.

The project is financed by the State Division of Housing and the New York Teachers and State Employees Retirement Systems.

To be eligible for the cooperative, a member's income may not be more than six times the annual rental or seven times the annual rental for families with three or more dependents.

The site is bounded by Baisley Boulevard, 176th Street, 137th Avenue and New York Boulevard. Applications for Rochdale Village, accompanied by a \$50 deposit, are being accepted at Community Service, Inc., 830 Grand St., New York 2, N. Y., Office Grant 7-5686.

On March 27, at the height of the Easter buying season, American women throughout the United States opened their Sunday newspapers and saw this advertisement. It's the first of the 1968 ILGWU union label campaign — each ad timed for a peak of fashion interest.

This ad was carried in 32 newspapers in these cities: New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, Washington, Baltimore, Bridgeport, Birmingham, Nashville, Newark, Kansas City, Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Easton, Harrisburg, Allentown, Bethlehem, New Bedford, Springfield, St. Louis; Oakland.

Up Pay for 350 At Ship 'n Shore in Phila. Renewal

Wage increases retroactive to February 1 cap the new two-year agreement negotiated with Ship 'n Shore, largest blouse manufacturer in the country, covering its plant in Upland, Pa., reports Vice Pres. William Ross, manager of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board.

Some 350 workers are employed in the Upland shop, which is the operating center for the Ship 'n Shore firm. The company sends work to about 20 contractors in Pennsylvania.

Terms of the renewal provide for a 3 percent increase in wages, with \$5 a week for cutters; a \$1.50 hourly minimum for packing and shipping employees; an additional ½ percent for the severance pay fund, making employer's total contribution to welfare funds equivalent to 10 percent of payroll.

Substantial gains also were chalked up in the contract reached with Alfred Angelo, one of the outstanding bridal gown firms in the nation.

Improvements for the more than 140 workers, effective as of March 1, include an across-the-board pay boost of 10 cents an hour, with a week for cutters, and another ½ percent contribution to the severance pay fund.

This firm, which had operated in a nearby suburban community, recently established its plant in Philadelphia.

Assisting Manager Ross in both negotiations were Business Agents Harry Otter and Albert Atcovitz.

SEEK SIZABLE RAISE IN BOSTON RAINWEAR

A demand for a wage increase of 20 cents an hour topped the list of gains sought for some 2,000 rainwear workers in Boston, as negotiations got under way for renewal of the agreement with the New England Clothing and Rainwear Manufacturers, covering shops in the greater Boston area.

Vice Pres. David Gingsold, director, and Jack Halpern, field secretary of the Northeast Department participated in a special meeting of the Local 24 executive board at which new pact demands were formulated. Halpern, Local Manager Henry Bridges and Area Supervisor Louis E. Roma were designated to present the demands to the Rainwear Association.

Other new terms proposed include a \$1.25 hourly minimum, a 10 percent pay holiday, use of the union label, a severance pay fund, and overtime pay after seven hours a day.

ILGWU TO CHALLENGE CANADA DORSAY POLL BEFORE LABOR BOARD

Plans to contest the recent voting at Dorsay Lingerie in Drummondville, Quebec, on the grounds of "undue company influence" were announced by Vice Pres. Bernard Shane. The vote will be challenged before the Quebec Labor Relations Board and, if necessary, before the courts.

Two votes took place under the supervision of the QLRB to determine whether the ILGWU or a company-dominated group should represent employees. The first vote ended in a 107-107 tie and the ILGWU lost out by a slight margin in the second vote.

Shane said he had been advised by Organization Director Si Bremer, who was in charge of the Dorsay campaign, that company influence was evident on many occasions before and during the actual voting. This included the presence of the first vote took place on the company premises in Drummondville; another instance was the presence of a company lawyer during the two votes.

Votes Contested

ILGWU Counsel J. J. Spector has been authorized to proceed with necessary legal steps to have the votes declared null and void. The ILGWU will take the position that the company-dominated group should not be certified as bargaining agent in spite of its slim victory because of violations of the Quebec Labor Relations Act.

Employees of Dorsay Lingerie have been members of the ILGWU for the past three years. When the ILGWU's first agreement with the Dorsay was about to expire at the end of 1959, the company insisted the establishment of a so-called "union" to challenge the ILGWU as bargaining agent. In spite of conclusive evidence presented by the ILGWU to the Quebec Labor Board, the company effected that the new "union" was company-dominated, the board ordered a vote.



This will be our 60th Easter Parade

Things have changed a lot since our first one, back in 1900. Then only the rich wore fine new clothes. Ready-made clothing was still almost a rarity. Working people sewed their own — or wore hand-me-downs.

We were a new union then, still in our infancy. The garment industry was an infant too, small and very sick. We worked in sweatshops. Fear kept us company. Perhaps you've heard of the Triangle Shirtwaist fire.

The bitter garment strikes of the early 1900's made labor history. Out of those struggles came a living wage, the right to work in dignity and safety, and — in 1923 — the first



Symbol of decency, fair labor standards and the American way of life

5-day work pact. Out of them grew a unique industry that has become a kind of symbol of America. Nowhere else in the world can so many dress so well.

This Easter, all over America, the clothes we make will go parading. They'll bear a tiny ILGWU label that stands for everything we've won. You can find this label in *almost* all women's and children's clothing. It's your only guarantee that those clothes were made under clean, decent conditions. Look for it when you shop. Insist on it. Take a stand for human dignity. It feels good.

RILL

THE ILGWU shop fire warden program, developed in New York during the past two years with the aid of that city's Fire Department, is being duplicated in other garment centers. Of proven effectiveness in cutting down fire hazards, the program was given contractual standing by the 1959 ILGWU convention and is being written into contracts as they are renewed.

Last month, *Business Week*, an outstanding management publication, featured the program in its pages — appropriately enough — on the very day marking the second anniversary of the Monarch fire. In New York City, ILGWU fire wardens were making their regular March, semi-annual inspections last month.

Meanwhile, in Fall River, Mass., a typical ILGWU program was launched last month. Working with the local fire department authorities, garment workers in several centers in the district are starting similar safety drives.



This cover of a special leaflet features picture of Fall River fire.



Fireman supervising drill demonstrates advantage of holding back evacuees from lower floor long enough to let upper floors march down stairs.



Fireman points out the wrong place for fire extinguisher and the wrong way to hang it. Extinguishers should be located within easy reach in any emergencies.



Fall River is one center where wardens learn use of extinguisher. Here, fireman demonstrates the accuracy with which inverted fire extinguishers can be aimed.



Before the actual drills were undertaken in the shops fire wardens met at union headquarters to scan educational matter, hear history of safety programs in garment industry, learn plans for inspections, drills.



In Fall River, details of program are explained to workers in series of meetings held in shops. Here, Fire Chief MacDonald tells how even modest knowledge of safety measures can become important in saving lives.

N'East Volunteers Bag Boston Blouse Holdouts

With volunteer rank-and-file organizing teams carrying the ball, the Northern New England District's big push plowed through the Boston blouse industry's holdout sector and rang up two points on the Northeast District's unionization scorecard.

A vigorous drive of several weeks, capped by short, fully effective strikes, brought union conversions to the workers of Elise blouse and Donna Louise Blouse firms, reports Vice Pres. David Oingold, Northeast director.

Despite heavy snowstorms and near-zero temperatures, ILGWU made the rounds of house visits night after night, bringing the ILGWU message that swung these workers into union ranks. When employers nevertheless refused to negotiate, picket lines were set up.

After one week, according to District Manager Mary Levin, the strike was over. Vice Pres. Philip Kramer, manager of the Boston Joint Board, was instrumental in settling first-line terms with Elise Blouse; two days later, Donna workers also enjoyed standard union conditions.

Resistant gains include general wage increases, reduction in the work week to 38 hours, "vacation" benefits, paid holidays, establishment of health, welfare, retirement and severance pay funds, and use of the union label. Inspired by these victories, the drive against non-union blouse vestiges continues under the guidance of Business Agent Elliot Kitzman and committee chair-lady Trudy Webster, Northeast Field Supervisor Jack Halpern

To Start '99' Talks In N.Y. Coats, Suits

New York Office and Distribution Employees' Local 99 will soon begin negotiations for a new collective agreement covering an estimated 400 members in some 200 coat and suit shops.

Manager Douglas Levin said the local's demands, which are now being formulated in detail by a negotiations committee, will include a substantial wage increase, more and guaranteed paid holidays and a retirement fund. The coat and suit contract will be the third major agreement renegotiated by the local in recent months.

Weigh Human Needs



Weighing-in ceremonies are part of celebration at open house marking tenth anniversary of the Garment Industry Health Center in Kansas City, Mo. From left: Joint Board Manager Helen Bangston; Hon. H. Roe Bartle, Mayor of Kansas City; Sarah Swernberg, Local 250 trustee; Lila Herring, Local 114 trustee.

NORWICH STRIKERS PETITION FOR POLL AT MERIDEN PLANT

Petition for a representation election has been filed with the National Labor Relations Board by the striking employees of the Norwich Frocks Co. in Meriden, Conn. It is reported by Vice Pres. Edward Kramer, director of the Eastern Region. A hearing on the petition was scheduled to be held in Boston on April 15.

The walkout by the 52 workers has been in progress since March 15 and morale on the picket line has remained high despite bitter weather and employer threats.

Local Manager Bert Cooper reports that, all previous attempts to organize garment shops in the Meriden area have been repudiated and that the present campaign is being watched as marking a possible breakthrough.

The groundwork for the drive and the conduct of the picketing were prepared with careful attention to limitations imposed by new legislation. In charge of the organizing has been Bob Wolff.

The Norwich workers have elected their strike committee which includes Antonina Amico, Grace Bruzese, Jenni Murphy, Lydia Bessoni, Bertha Mercier, Betty Fernandes and Carmela Glionfriddo.

Meriden Breakthrough



Sparking a drive against non-union holdouts in Meriden, Conn., the workers of Norwich Frocks have been picketing since Mar. 15 while waiting action on a petition for an NLR election.

HOW TO BUY

by SIDNEY MARCOUS

'Easy' Terms, Nothing Down Snarles Families Into Debt

Installment debts are soaring. So are wage-earner bankruptcies. So are pleas for help from families who have gotten on a debt merry-go-round.

In this relatively boom era, there actually are more bankruptcies than during the big depression, and many more involve working families. In 1954, 83 percent of the 80,000 personal bankruptcies were by wage-earners, compared to 35 percent of the 70,000 in 1935, reports the National Retail Credit Association.



Despite the rise in bankruptcies, American families are undertaking even heavier debts, and most dangerously, are developing a new credit habit. They are buying more on credit—more clothing, as well as the big ones on credit.

Last January, installment debts jumped \$400 million to a new record of \$40 billion. Such debts increased 15 percent in just a year.

What your family especially ought to know is that only \$150 million of the January jump was for cars compared to previous average increases of \$200 million a month for this big purchase. The rest of the increase was for smaller items many families traditionally bought for cash.

Behind the big jump in credit buying of small items, is the push large banks and retailers are giving "revolving credit" and "check-credit" plans. Sears Roebuck, for example, reports that nearly half their sales are now on credit.

Similarly, over 100 banks now offer "check-credit." They credit a loan to your account and you draw on it by check, repaying monthly. In less than a year, 40,000 families opened such accounts just with First National City Bank of New York.

Banks Push 'Easy' Credit

Another modern easy-credit plan is bank charge accounts. You get a card allowing you to charge at local stores, and pay the bank monthly, taking up to six months. One big bank reports it now has 36,000 such "charge" buyers.

Nevertheless, these easy-credit plans are pushed by the same banks like First National City which have been "gryph budget" for years high interest rates with the argument that "tight money" will curb borrowing and inflation. The banks are saying one thing but doing another.

1—If they believed credit unions they would have gotten better counseling on debt management than from the loan companies and installment sellers who let them over-borrow. Another value of joining a credit union is the opportunity to get a consolidation loan at 12 percent or less a year, to repay higher-rate debt. Loan companies generally charge 14 to 28 percent a year. Commercial banks are another source of reasonable consolidation loans, but tend to seek borrowers with more financial ability.

2—If a low-cost consolidation loan is not available, the only other way to get out of debt is to go on a "gryph budget" for some enough to reduce debts to a more reasonable level. That may seem tough to say to a lady who already shops as carefully for food. But even in her budget, there's at least one loophole in the \$108 a year. If the policy has been in existence a while, there are cash reserves here that can be borrowed on a lower rate of interest to repay the installment debts.

Coast NLRB Ruling Clips Dove's Wings

The Dove Manufacturing Co. has had its wings clipped by a decision of the National Labor Relations Board's regional director, reports Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast ILGWU director. Charged by the Los Angeles Dress and Sportswear

Joint Board with an unfair labor practice in setting up a company-dominated "union," the lingerie firm has been ordered by the NLRB to cease all activity on behalf of the so-called Employees Group, to refund all monies collected for its support, and to post notice of the board's order for a 60-day period.

After the ILGWU's dress and sportswear affiliate had distributed union leaflets at the Dove plant last November, the Employees' Group was immediately formed. Funds were later collected from several workers in the factory and a notice was issued to all employees specifying benefits which would apply to them as of January 1, 1960.

Tyler in L.A.

Emphasizing the need for the labor movement to be active on the political and legislative fronts, ILGWU Political Director Gus Tyler told a special meeting of Los Angeles ILGWU officers that the "Landrum-Griffin" Law is the atomic bomb of the anti-union elements in America, and labor cannot fight an atomic bomb with a pistol. "Labor's effective counter-weapon is the voting strength of its membership."

Tyler mapped out current ILGWU efforts to mobilize the membership behind the Kennedy-McCarr-Franklin Minimum Wage Bill, the Federal Bill, and civil rights legislation. He urged all ILGWUers to write their Congressmen to circulate petitions, to talk to their neighbors and friends about the issues and get them to write their legislators.

Starr Speaks

It was a time for reminiscing when former Education Director Mark Starr addressed a group of Los Angeles ILGWUers during his recent lecture tour for the League for Industrial Democracy.

Recalling the pioneering efforts of the ILGWU in the field of education and human welfare, Starr hailed the "new pioneers" of the today who are carrying on with solving the new problems of the labor movement.

Cloak Session Aims Varied Union, Industry Aspects

Multi-front activities, developments and problems of New York cloakmakers were aired by Vice Pres. Henoch Mendelsund, general manager of the Cloak Joint Board, at that body's meeting on March 23.

On the season, the report was that the spring work period, on the whole, was not up to expectations. One factor, it was felt, is a general uneasiness in the American economy, with pockets of persistent unemployment defying overall "prosperity."

Another cause, it was indicated, was the exceptionally bad recent weather, particularly in the South, which adversely affected sales of spring garments and slowed production here.

On the label, it was confirmed that beginning with the week of May 2, sewing in of the ILGWU union label insignia, together with the established Recovery Board label, would start on coat and suit production throughout the country.

On guaranteed holidays, all preparations are being made to assure such payment to all entitled workers, when this important gain takes effect shortly.

Other items reported included news:

—That the industry-wide survey has been completed, and that resultant facts will be released as soon as the information is tabulated.

—That plans are proceeding for suitable celebration of the 50th anniversary of the historic cloakmakers' strike.

—That cloak contributions to this year's March of Dimes topped last year, coming close to \$11,000.

The general manager also reviewed his talks to local membership meetings since his election to that post, the most recent being sessions of Locals 117 and 28. At these gatherings, in addition to an analysis of current industry developments, he pointed out that despite some industrial contraction in recent years, the fact remained that area cloakmakers enjoy the highest standards in the apparel trade.

ILG-Backed Canada Law OKs Union Right to Sue

The Quebec government has made a radical change in the legal status of trade unions in the province, largely as a result of the initiative of the ILGWU.

An amendment to Quebec's Code of Civil Procedure, adopted by the Legislature this month, gives a union for the first time the right to sue in its collective name.

The amendment, known as Section 81-B of the Code of Civil Procedure, was called for by the ILGWU after the Supreme Court of Canada had ruled that trade unions in Quebec could not sue as a collective entity.

Following the Supreme Court Judgment, Vice Pres. Shane convinced the Quebec Federation of Labor to seek remedial action when it presented a brief to the Quebec Government late last year.

Subsequently, Shane, accompanied by ILGWU counsel J. J. Spector, called on Attorney General Antoine Rivard to press the recommendation for an amendment to the law which the union had described as unfair to organized labor. The ILGWU stand was endorsed by the Labor

Department, headed by Premier Antonio Barrette.

The new law, introduced by Attorney General Rivard, provides that any union certified by the Quebec Labor Relations Board as bona fide may maintain a legal action in its collective name.

Shane Returns

Vice Pres. Shane will return to his office in Montreal early in April after recent surgery and a brief period of convalescence.

Shane will resume his post as general manager of all ILGWU locals in Montreal as well as director of the Canada-wide organizing drive.

St. Bremer, recently named "understudy" to Shane, will continue as assistant director of the organization campaign, a post he has occupied since the successful drive was inaugurated almost four years ago.



UNITY HOUSE OFFICE MOVED

The best time to make reservations for a 1960 vacation at Unity House is now. The new office of Unity House in New York is located at 275 Seventh Ave. Bring your union book when registering.

Southeast Recruits Nava of Miami; Rises Cap New Douglas Pact Terms

SILVER JUBILEE MEET OF JEWISH LABOR UNION ASSAILS ALL BIGOTRY

The fight against discrimination, bigotry and intolerance against any peoples anywhere in the world provided the theme for the silver jubilee convention of the Jewish Labor Committee held in Atlantic City last weekend. In a transcribed message to the gathering, AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany stressed that the federation would not rest until the last vestiges of racial discrimination in its ranks had been wiped out. "Even those who practice discrimination know that its days are numbered, and we are going to make sure of it," he said.

In another address, ILGWU Pres. David Dubinsky, treasurer of the JLC, cautioned against the sending of any labor delegations to the Soviet Union. He also called on organized labor to back Southern Negroes efforts against segregation.

A special report to the convention painted a grim picture of suppression of Jewish cultural and religious life under the Soviet dictatorship and its satellites.

Adolph Held is chairman of the committee, which represents 500,000 Jewish workers in the AFL-CIO. ILGWU Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman is head of its civil rights committee.

A first-time agreement, a contract renewal, a back pay award—new members, veteran members and not-yet members all scored impressive gains via the actions of Southeast Region staffers in recent weeks, reports Regional Director E. T. Kehrer.

A demand for union representation by an overwhelming majority of the 50 workers at Nava Manufacturing Co., dress producers of Miami, Florida, finally brought an ILG pact negotiated by Business Agent James Belluso following a series of conferences with the firm.

Terms of the agreement provide an immediate reduction of the work week to 37½ hours with a compensatory ½ percent wage increase; provision for a further reduction to 35 hours within the life of the contract; five paid holidays; employer contributions of 4½ percent of payroll to the health and welfare fund, and the prevailing minimums for the area.

Sherry Stopped

Findings by a trial examiner from the National Labor Relations Board have upheld the charges of unfair labor practices filed by Miami Local 415 against the Sherry Manufacturing Co.

When the workers at Sherry walked off the job last June in protest against the intolerable working conditions, the firm arbitrarily fired all strikers, hired strikebreakers and obtained an injunction banning picketing. The injunction was later reversed on appeal by the union.

Meanwhile, the ILGWU had filed unfair labor practice charges. The recommendations of an NLRB trial exam-

iner called for the company to bargain with the union, full and immediate reinstatement to striking workers without prejudice to seniority or other rights, and compensation for any loss of pay they may have suffered.

Douglas Raises

A wage increase of 6 percent recently highlights the two-year renewal pact covering some 150 workers at the Federal Corset Co. of Douglas, Georgia.

Additional gains for the members of Local 486 include the establishment of a severance pay fund; a 1 percent boost in contributions to the retirement fund; an additional 1½ paid holidays, for a total of 5; a 5-cent hourly hike in minimums; overtime pay after the daily regular hours; a reduction in the work week to 35 hours and use of the union label.

Terms of the new pact also call for maintenance of work standards, provisions for leave of absence, and the regional clauses regarding struck work and union contractors.

Adding Kehrer during bargaining sessions were Nick Bonanno, assistant to the director, Business Agent Ruby Chaney, and a negotiating committee made up of Opal Collier, Louise Coleman, Vera Mae Hursey, Ida Carver, Annie Sturgis, Myrtle Collins, Ollie Mae Gibbs and Willie Williams.

Pact Prelim



Members of New York Children's Dressmakers' Local 91 at one of a series of action meetings addressed by Vice Pres. Shane. Plans to discuss union demands for upcoming pact talks.

Begin Los Angeles Fire Safety Plan

April 4 has been set as the official kick-off date of the fire warden program in the Los Angeles area, according to Manager Eldor Stenzon of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board.

At a special meeting on this date, details of the program will be explained by Captain Edward J. Meyer of the Bureau of Fire Prevention.

The special gathering is the second step of the program which began when the current contract was signed between the cloak union and the associations in the Los Angeles area, specifying that fire warden be named in each shop and that special fire drills be held at least twice a year.

Each shop will have a fire warden; each building will have a captain to coordinate efforts of individual shop wardens. The entire setup will be under the supervision of the union's fire marshal, Jose Oviedo. The Bureau of Fire Prevention will hold special class sessions for all fire wardens to train them for specific duty. The cloak contract is the first in the area to carry a clause instituting the fire warden system.

Shoppers' Guide



"Look for the union label" is the advice given to shoppers in New York City's Herald Square by members of the Dress Joint Council in the first of a series of weekly distributions of ILGWU label literature. Subsequent distributions will urge shoppers to shun garments produced by non-union manufacturers.

Top NLRB Backs N'East In Spurning Ithaca Terms

Strikers at Ithaca Textiles in Ithaca, N.Y., on the line for more than seven months, were bolstered last week by a decision of the General Council of the National Labor Relations Board, turning down the company's spurious "settlement" terms.

This action reversed an earlier decision by the NLRB's Buffalo Regional Office.

In its petition for review of the Buffalo ruling, the ILGWU opposed the "settlement" terms as wholly inadequate and unacceptable, and pointed out they would have permitted the firm to discriminate against striking employees' job rights.

The full record of the employer's unfair labor practices, against which the workers struck on September 9, 1959, and of continued illegal acts, was detailed in the 31-page petition prepared by ILGWU General Counsel Morris P. Glushien and associate Julius Topol.

Protect Rights

The resultant decision of NLRB General Counsel Stuart Rothenberg makes it incumbent upon the

board's Buffalo Regional Office to obtain a settlement that will protect the strikers' right to their jobs.

Should the employer refuse to agree to a proper settlement, the General Council will bring the case against Ithaca Textiles to a hearing before a trial examiner.

Last November, the NLRB General Examiner issued a complaint against the company, indicating that the facts of the union's charges of unfair labor practices were indisputable.

Vice Pres. David Gindoff, director of the Northeast Department, declared that Ithaca strikers deserve the fullest support of all trade unionists for the manner in which they are fighting so determinedly to safeguard their rights.

Strum and Pluck



Mandolin music echoes through the halls of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board as the Golden Club Mandolin Chorus presents its first concert under the baton of director Jack Doctrow.

DR. STANLEY TESSLER OF CHI HEALTH UNIT DEAD IN PLANE CRASH

Among the 43 persons who died in the explosion of the airplane on a Chicago to Miami flight March 17 were Dr. Stanley E. Tessler, medical director of the ILGWU Chicago Health Center, his wife Henrietta and their son, David. Dr. Tessler was 47 years old.

Dr. Tessler became associated



Dr. Stanley Tessler

with the Midwest affiliate of the ILGWU—six years ago at the initial planning of the health center, and was medical director since the center opened in January 1955.

In addition to his duties at the health center, Dr. Tessler was a close personal friend of the union staff and membership in the area. His devoted service to his profession and the labor movement made him well known to medical, civic and labor groups in the greater Chicago area.

A meeting of the health center board of trustees has been scheduled to plan memorial services.

'Songs of Work and Freedom'

"Songs of Work and Freedom," celebrating and documenting the labor movement's struggles for freedom in America and around the world, has been published by the Labor Education Division of Roosevelt University.

The new, 208-page volume, by Edith Fowke and Joe Glazer, contains the words and music to 100 songs, from the 14th Century to the present.

Miss Fowke is a noted Canadian folklore specialist; Glazer is well known as a union folk singer and as education director of the United Rubber Workers.

The book includes all the popular trade union songs, "work" songs from all over and the song of "no work" of the breadlines and soup kitchens.

Copies of "Songs of Work and Freedom" are available to ILGERS at a special price of \$1.50 from the Book Division of the ILGWU Education Department, 1710 Broadway, New York City 19.

HITS AND MRS.

by JAMIE GOODSELL

Willing Mind, Weak Flesh No Match for Alarm Clock

I get up as seven A.M. Well, I don't mean that I actually get up at seven, but that's my target. It gives me a point of reference so I'll know how long I've overslept.

If I did get up at seven, I'd have time to get dressed, comb my hair, put on lipstick, fix hot cereal for breakfast, put up lunches, kiss my husband good-bye and assist the children in assembling their mittens, scarfs, galoshes, bus tickets and lost spelling books.

Come to think of it, I do most of these things anyway—sort of. But leaving around the way I do takes a lot out of me, and I have to keep fighting down hysteria. The atmosphere around our house in the morning couldn't be much firer. I really should get up at seven. My problem is this: What time should I set the alarm in order to get up at seven?

Ten minutes to seven seems reasonable. That gives me ten minutes to pull myself together, to start life's juices flowing through my veins, to figure out who I am and what I'm supposed to do.

The trouble is I can figure out more than that in ten minutes. I have amazing clarity of mind early in the morning, an uncanny ability to think straight. In that moment of blinding truth, I realize that there's no real reason why I should get up so early. Why in the world should I get dressed before breakfast? Nobody looks at me anyway. The children actually prefer cold cereal to hot, and whole oranges are just as good for them as orange juice.

That settled. I snuggle back under the covers for ten more minutes. As I lie there, another cunning thought filters into my mind. The children can buy their lunches. A good hot school lunch is more nourishing than peanut butter and jelly sandwiches from home. Congratulating myself on my cleverness and efficiency, I doze off for a few extra minutes of well-deserved rest.

I finally struggle out of bed at 7:20—late, sleepy and furious at myself.

How about five minutes to seven? That should be just right. Five minutes is long enough for raking up, but not long enough for going back to sleep. This theory has flaws which become evident only when put to the test. The time is up before I even have my eyes open. If I got up now, I would surely faint. How can I get up when I'm so dizzy? I'll simply have to give myself a few minutes reprieve.

Five minutes is not long enough for waking up.

You may have noticed that I haven't even mentioned the possibility of setting the alarm for seven o'clock. I'm not that crazy! I understand there are people who get out of bed the minute the alarm goes off, but there must be something wrong with their metabolism. It isn't normal.

I might as well face it. There simply isn't any right time to set the alarm to get me up at seven o'clock!

Education Meet Scans Government

The functions of the federal government, the relationship between the states and Congress, and a comparison between the parliamentary and presidential systems are among the topics to be covered at the ILGWU Education-Recreation Center in coming weeks.

Sessions are held Thursday evenings at Charles Evans Hughes High School, 18th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues, beginning at 6:15 P.M. in Room 404.

Recreation and folk dancing follow the discussions, which are led by authorities in the various fields.

Hillsboro, Benld Get Central States Gains

New wage and hour standards established in St. Louis are spreading throughout the area, Vice Pres. Frederick Siemens, director of the Central States Region, reports. A new contract between Local 394 and the Hillsboro Garment Co. and one between Local 487 and the Benld Garment Co.

Both firms under the same ownership are bringing the same wage and conditions to 180 garment workers in Hillsboro and Benld, Ill., as those in the St. Louis and Minneapolis agreements.

Workers in Festus, St. James and Perryville, Mo. and Alton and Edwardsville, Ill. had already made it, since their employers are members of the Associated Garment Industries of St. Louis.

Albert Goldman, manager of

the Central Illinois District Council, negotiated the new contract for Hillsboro and Benld with the assistance of the following committee: Irene Hughes, Betty Martin, Kate Calaferte and Grace Cress of Local 394, Julia Verba, Minnie Jones and Wilma Olasky of Local 487.

All contract provisions are exactly the same as those in the cities, with the exception of a 5-cent differential in the minimums for pressers and operators.

Committee Set to Select ILG Scholarship Winners

The selections committee of the ILGWU National Scholarship Fund is scheduled to meet next month to choose the winners of the ten \$2,000 awards, according to Fund Director Gus Tyler. The field has been narrowed to 53 finalists from more than 800 applicants.

Scholarships are awarded to sons and daughters of ILGWU \$500 annually for four years of undergraduate work at any accredited college they may choose. To date, there are 20 students attending colleges around the country under the auspices of the fund, which was established to mark the 25th anniversary of David Dubinsky's presidency of the ILGWU.

Noted Educators

The seven-member selections committee is comprised of the following outstanding educators: Dr. Lewis Wehrer, Jones, president, National Conference of Christians and Jews; Dr. Abram L. Sachar, president, Brandeis University; Dr. George Shuster, president emeritus, Hunter College; Dr. Ira D. A. Reid, president, Haverford College; Dr. George Gans, professor emeritus, Columbia University; Dr. Roma Gans, professor of education, Teachers College, Columbia University; and Dr. Mario Elindor, Cornell University.

The committee will select ten winners from the finalists, 27 boys and 16 girls from 27 states, on the basis of

CUTTERS' COLUMN

Seasonal Turnover Activates Cutters' Job-Finding Service

As soon as work gets under way in the shops—after the lull between the close of the spring season and the start of fall production—the officers and staff of Local 10 will concentrate their efforts on finding permanent jobs for cutters displaced by the seasonal turnover of firms.

This statement was included in a recent report by Vice Pres. Falkman, manager of the cutters' local. He declared that it had been the consistent objective of the administration to spare no effort in seeking to reduce the gap between the time a member is displaced from his job by a firm that goes out of business and the time he gets another regular job.

Cutters by consensus and concerted efforts was it possible to keep the number of cutters unemployed to a job at any particular time down to a minimum, he stated. Last year, 588 placements on permanent jobs were made through the local.

The importance of this phase of the organization's work cannot be overemphasized, Falkman told the members of the executive board. It is necessary to see to it that everything humanly possible

Regular Meeting
Monday, April 25

is done to put the unattached cutter back on a permanent job with the least delay.

The local to chief stated he had instructed the staff to concentrate on this objective in the coming months. As in the past, no overtime by cutters will be permitted in any shop where there is room for an additional permanent cutter.

Season Review

In a review of the past spring season Falkman stated work in the cloak trade had been disappointing. Despite the late date of Easter this year, most of the cutters were laid off two weeks before the holiday and some are working hard by sharing the remaining available work.

The past cloak season emphasized the declining trend of spring production in this branch in recent years often attributed to the rise in the use of casual or sports-wear apparel.

Except for firms engaged in manufacturing garments for chain stores and mail order houses, most of the work for many cutters in this branch until work on fall garments gets under way, unless they are temporarily employed in other trades.

The cutters in the dress trade had a fair season. At present, however, the outlook for cotton dresses for summer lines, if present expectations materialize, is bleak. They absorb cutters from other branches while such cutters wait for work to start up in their own trades.

Work for cutters in the miscellaneous trades has been satisfactory for the most part. There is relatively less of a between-seasons gap in these branches than in the major cloak and dress trades. Among the most stable trades, in terms of steady work, are children's dresses and corsets and brassieres, which are fairly stable apparel items. Work in the underwear and blouse trades has been at normal levels.

Leadership Level



Windup session of this season's Leadership Training Class of New York Dressmakers' Local 22, led by Manager Israel Breslow, congratulating members upon successful completion of course.

S'East Mans Front Lines In Fight for Free Speech

Southeast ILGers again are in the front line of the fight for free speech by vigorously challenging the constitutionality of a Spartanburg, South Carolina ordinance restricting the distribution of leaflets.

According to Southeast Director E. T. Kehrer, an appeal has been filed in the County Clerk of Court's office on behalf of ILGWU Vice Agent Joe Ferguson, who was convicted on two counts of violating the city ordinance.

The local law provides that a permit must be obtained to distribute literature in Spartanburg, and that it must be placed between the screen and the door at homes and businesses.

Seeking to comply with the law, the union staffer applied for a permit, but was refused by the city authorities. When

he handed out leaflets in front of the non-union Spartan Undies Manufacturing plant in town, he was arrested; the judge of the City Recorder's Court sentenced him to 30 days or \$100 fine on each count.

Ferguson is free on \$200 appeal bond.

The appeal is based on the contention that the city ordinance under which Ferguson was convicted is arbitrary, confiscatory, invalid, unreasonable and violates both the South Carolina and U.S. Constitutions.

BOOK FRONT

by MIRIAM SPIECHANDER

Love of New York Permeates Stories By Meyer Berger

MEYER BERGER'S NEW YORK. Random House. \$4.95.

Meyer Berger was The New York Times' special reporter whose pen was the big city itself. From 1933 until his death early in 1959, Berger had a special place in the paper where he ran a continuing account of his love for the city, its people, its places.

But it wasn't people in general Berger liked. His genius was in his ability to find them in the



most startling or stirring situations, doing great or sentimental things in corners of the city that few knew as well as he did.

He knew the edges of the city—its swerves and paths, its highways and its slums. He knew the suburbs, Park Avenue and the Bowery, its raucous laughter and its dirty secrets. But he knew all of this and much more in terms of particular people. And he was a writer of finding them, while the rest of us never even saw them against their background.

He injected sentimentality with exactitude. He drew unforgettable pictures of people in trouble. His daily piece was a meeting place for the improbable and the imperishable.

This collection of his pieces constitute a picture of the city in all of its crazy wonder. It is all about other people, but it's all about Berger himself in it—except his love and compassion that made him see these things.

N.Y. Jobless

(Continued from Page 3) an industry which does not offer short-term or high-wage employment opportunities, perhaps an older worker who finds it harder to get a new job, may not be able to find four weeks of employment or earnings of \$200 during the rest of his benefit year.

"As a result, for the very same conduct some workers will pay only a labor penalty while other workers will suffer a complete elimination of all bona fide rights."

"In short, what the penalty will be under the proposed bill depends on nothing but chance. It is manifest that a sound unemployment insurance law should treat all claimants subject to these disqualifications in the same way and should subject them to the same suspension period. The proposed bill is an unnecessary and dangerous departure from that sound principle."

Gossard

(Continued from Page 3) have been filed against the Sam Diamond Knitting Mills as the strike at that Chicago sportswear manufacturer enters its second week.

The walkout began when two members of the union organizing committee were laid off. Charges filed with the National Labor Relations Board also cite the firm with acts of coercion and intimidation against its 20 workers.

'105' SEVERANCE PAY GOES TO 97 WORKERS

New York Local 105, the first ILGWU affiliate to establish a severance pay fund, has just paid out approximately \$6,000 in severance benefits to 97 employees of nine firms that recently went out of business.

It was the third distribution of severance benefits since the fund began making payments last year. The recipients included members of Locals 117 and 48, in addition to members of Local 105. Manager Martin L. Cohen announced.

Nine people received checks of over \$1,000 each. The highest individual check was for \$1,736.

Under the '105' severance pay fund rules, a worker gets an average week's pay for each year of employment with a firm up to maximum of 15 years, if the firm goes out of business. The 97 workers who received their benefits recently had been employed by Herlihy Sportswear, Jamesshire Sportswear, Desi Fancys Wear, Twinkle Togs, Joe Jay, Harold Busman, Mona Lynn, Skipper Playclothes and Oallie Sportswear.

Rally Los Angeles Labor For \$1.25 U.S. Minimum

The strength of 700,000 trade unionists in Southern California has been mobilized behind the campaign to win improvements in the U. S. wage and hour law, reports Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, Pacific Coast director.

Plans were mapped at a special meeting last month convened by W. J. Basanti, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, attended by spokesmen of the various unions represented on the Joint Minimum Wage Committee.

Immediate activities include a concentrated letter-writing drive to all California Congressmen, and the circulation of thousands of petitions in the area urging Congress to boost the federal minimum wage to \$1.25 an hour and extending the law's coverage.

Guest speaker at the delegate W. J. Basanti, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, urged workers to get up to date on the status of the bill in Congress.

Wide Labor Backing
Support from labor groups in

N.Y. DRESSMAKERS Applications for Retirement

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1960

Will Be Accepted

Starting Apr. 15, 1960

Members of Locals 10, 22, 60 and 89 wishing to retire this year must apply at the office of the Retirement Fund, 218-222 West 40th Street, New York City, in Room 610 (6th floor) between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Members of the Eastern Region and Northeast Department Locals in shops located outside of New York dress jobbers, should apply at their local union office.

Registration in New York City will be accepted in the alphabetical order listed below. Those whose last names begin with letter:

- A thru C — April 15 to April 22
- D thru G — April 25 to April 29
- H thru M — May 2 to May 6
- N thru S — May 9 to May 13
- S thru Z — May 16 to May 20

If you cannot come in during the period set aside for you, you may register from May 23 to June 15, 1960.

At time of application a worker must produce his union book, proof of age and Social Security card. An applicant for disability retirement benefits must also produce a doctor's certificate attesting to the worker's inability to work. A birth certificate or passport submitted by a female applicant as proof of age, must be accompanied by a marriage certificate.

Full information about rules and regulations pertaining to eligibility for retirement may be obtained at your local union office.

RETIREMENT FUND OF THE DRESS INDUSTRY OF NEW YORK

Charles S. Zimmerman Treasurer
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JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"...A DANGEROUS THING"

A REPUBLICAN elder statesman has declared that increased spending for education would not guarantee improvement in the product of our schools. It should not be concluded therefrom that decreased spending would. In fact, the statesman pointed to the accomplishments of the Russian educational system as proof that spirit and determination count for more in bringing about an excellent result.

There can be no disagreement with this generalization. The educators and others assembled last week in Washington for the President's conference on youth probed the shortcomings of our schools. Much profound advice was given and a good deal of it added up to the conclusion that the nation needs a spiritual revolution to match the great strides we have made in the production of material goods and services.

We would be the first to hail a revival of spiritual values. Indeed, many in this nation have watched the spread of a worldwide challenge to freedom with an increasingly desperate hope for such a revival.

Until now, they have hoped in vain. The eminent Republican statesman provides no encouragement.

HE WOULD HAVE STIRRED hope had he uttered in ringing tones the advice that while increased spending cannot guarantee improvements there can be no widespread improvements without it. We are now short some 150,000 classrooms in this country. In the next ten years, at the rate we are falling behind, we shall achieve a shortage of about 600,000 classrooms.

In a simpler age, potential Presidents came marching out of the little red schoolhouses that were for so long the symbol of equal opportunity for all in this country. Education today is a vastly more complex and costly enterprise that must provide laboratories, libraries, space and equipment.

IT SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE something which the Russians seem to have and which we—even the Republican spokesman admits—lack.

It is an attitude toward study and learning—toward eminence of mind—which depends on traits not always praised in a business-minded society. It is an attitude which in the ultimate balancing of resources and expenditures bases decisions on survival values, not cash values.

The present national administration continues the Republican belief that federal spending is an unmixed evil. Toward this end it has worked, like other Republican administrations, to shrink the concept of general welfare. It has acted on the premise that the proper function of government is maximum withdrawal from concern with the economic and social affairs of the citizenry even in this age of giant enterprise.

The Republican spokesman envies the Russians the seriousness of their school-going youth. Those young men and women are inspired by the belief—right in their eyes, wrong in ours—that upon their example and strength rests their salvation of the world.

What matching belief do we offer our young people?

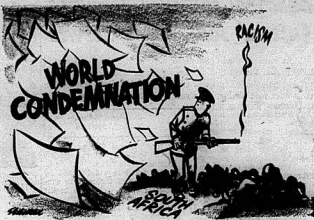
We offer statesmen who proclaim it is folly to spend more for schools and teachers at this time. We offer an outmoded political principle that federal concern for strengthening educational facilities is interference in the affairs of states and individuals—even those who are unwilling or unable to find the financial means of making their own improvements.

What ingredients of hope can our youth find in public policies based on bookkeeping mechanics of debit and credit? What fealty to freedom can we expect from them when national leaders and spokesmen themselves preach without end that the greatest good is the pursuit of private fortune, regardless even of public cost?

"I Say It's Socialism—And the Hell With It!"



"The Shot Heard 'Round the World'"



No Time for Complacency!

By
James B. Conant

Excerpt from address by the president-emeritus of Harvard University on his receiving the Woodrow Wilson Award for Distinguished Service.

AS I have traveled around the country during the last two years, with few exceptions I have sensed no awareness of the nature of our peril. For the most part, I have encountered little but complacency. There is in certain circles an unwillingness to agree that there is an urgency today which is a consequence of our struggle with the Soviet Union, a reluctance to talk in terms of the national need.

The high degree of complacency is compounded in a curious way, with despair—despair at understanding the altered military situation, and hence a feeling of almost hopeless resignation and an unwillingness to discuss the choices which lie before the American people. To my mind there are two basic difficulties in analyzing the present situation.

ONE difficulty involves the nature of the struggle; the other is a consequence of the terrifying nature of new weapons. As to the first, it is hard for Americans to envisage what would be involved if we surrendered to Soviet Imperialism—surrendered at once or step by step. The basic issue of freedom is too easily obscured. This is particularly true today.

The second difficulty which blocks a calm discussion of our foreign policy is the horrifying nature of the new weapons. To mention thermonuclear bombs and rockets is to freeze the conversation in many gatherings. "The prospects are too horrible to contemplate" is the usual response to anyone who attempts to start a discussion of military strategy.

Yet, as a free people, we surely must face up to what is involved in the technological military developments of our time. The choice should not be between surrender and large-scale war. It is our job to arrange matters in this country and in the free world that this will not be the choice before us.

WHAT are the outlines of the steps which are required? First and foremost must come the assurance of our physical survival. And to make

the illustration relatively simple, let me anticipate the course of technological development and assume that we are living in a period when thermonuclear weapons will be delivered by rockets, either intercontinental or of more limited range—a period when the airplane is no longer the vehicle for carrying thermonuclear bombs.

Having no access to classified information, I make no prophecy as to when this period will be reached, but it seems safe to say that at least by 1970 we will be living in this kind of fearful world. Under such conditions, there is one essential for our survival as a free nation, and that is that we possess an invulnerable system of retaliatory power and that the Soviets believe the system to be invulnerable.

What do I mean by these words "invulnerable system" of retaliatory power? I mean that we must possess a system of rockets which will survive any thermonuclear attack by an aggressor, even assuming that the aggressor can concentrate all his forces against our own delivery system for thermonuclear weapons. What do I mean by "retaliatory power"? I mean that such a system surviving a thermonuclear barrage would be able in retaliation to deliver thermonuclear weapons to such an extent and in such a way that at least three-fourths of the industrial complexes of the Soviet Union would be utterly destroyed.

FUNDAMENTALLY, the real issue will be decided, to my mind, by the attitude of the people of the free nations and particularly by the citizens of the United States, for we must play the leading role because we are the largest and most powerful country that stands in opposition to the Communist doctrine. Complacency and indifference will certainly not suffice.

It is difficult in this time of struggle, but not of war, to create the climate of opinion which should be comparable in its effect. It is difficult but not impossible. To be sure, there exists, today, a dangerous gap between public opinion and reality. But I am confident that the gap can and will be closed.